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Japanese armor given in the classic Shoko-jiu-shiu, there are four specimens which agree closely with the present one. One of these, the votive armor of Yoritomo, preserved in the shinto temple of Hinomisaki, dates from the end of the twelfth century. Another, of about the same date, was preserved until the early nineteenth century in the temple of Kurama and, judged from engravings, was so similar to the specimen now exhibited that there was at first a suspicion that the Kurama harness had been abstracted from the temple and not destroyed by fire.

With all of these specimens there is close agreement in general design, in the size, shape and peculiar flatness of the scales (*kozanê*) of which the armor is made up, in the quality of silk cording and leather work, in the wide kusazuri, falling apron-like from the corselet, in the broad neck guard of the helmet and in the great ear-guards which roll outward from either side. But especially striking is the similarity in the quality of workmanship, the finish and delicacy shown in the smaller details, e. g., in the metal work, in the bindings inserted where the various patterns of leather meet, or in

the designs of the stamped leather. These were stamped, it appears, line by line, not by a general block or through a stencil as in later harnesses. The design on the leathern cover of the corselet showing O-Fudo (god of inflexible judgment) with the attendant figures, Seitaka-Doji and Kongara-Doji, is, as already noted, unique in its preservation, and deserves the closest study. It shows, for example, the skill of the early designers, who with the fewest lines have been able to concentrate in their work so much life and movement. Witness, for example, the expression in the arms of the figures or the swirl of the flames around the head of the central deity.

The date of the present harness, granting always the accuracy of the date assigned to the similar specimens in Japan, cannot be much later than 1200 A. D. (early Kamakura period). For this determination we are indebted to the critics, Mr. Imamura, director of the Imperial Collection of Arms and Armor (Yu-shiu-kwan), and Professor Seki, of the Imperial College of Art in Tokyo, who were so good as to examine the armor before it was sent from Japan.

B. D.

NOTES

CHANGES IN THE STAFF

A CURATOR OF DECORATIVE ARTS. —In conformity with their policy of developing the organization of the Museum staff, and thereby increasing its efficiency as rapidly as circumstances permit, the Trustees at their December meeting appointed Dr. Wilhelm R. Valentiner of Berlin as Curator of Decorative Arts, his term of office to begin as soon as his present engagements will permit. Dr. Valentiner is now the private assistant of Wilhelm Bode, the Director General of the Royal Museums of Berlin, as well as official assistant in the Kaiser Friedrich Museum. He was especially recommended to the Trustees of the Metropolitan

Museum by Dr. Bode himself, whose recommendation was warmly seconded by Julius Lessing, Director of the Kunstgewerbe Museum in Berlin. Under both of these men he has had thorough training in various branches of museum work, which has given him exceptional preparation for the duties of his new position here. Though still a young man he has already achieved a high reputation among museum authorities and other connoisseurs in Europe, by whom he is regarded as one of the ablest of the younger generation of scholars who make a specialty of the history of art from the expert point of view. His university degree was obtained at Heidelberg, where besides being a student he was for a year and a half the assistant of Henry Thode,

the writer on the painters of the Renaissance. After leaving Heidelberg he went to Holland, where he worked under de Groot and Bredius, and became an assistant of the latter in the gallery of The Hague. In 1905 he was summoned by Dr. Bode to Berlin, and for the last two years has been working under him in various branches of the Berlin collections, dividing his time between the Kaiser Friedrich Museum and the Kunstgewerbe Museum.

Dr. Valentiner has published several important works, his first being a monograph on the restoration of the Castle of Heidelberg, followed by a book on Rembrandt and a catalogue of the Hispano-Moresque pottery in the Alfred Beit collection in London. He has also made special studies of the pottery of the Netherlands and of Italian majolica, and during the last year has been occupied with the collection of Moslem arts in the Kaiser Friedrich Museum.

Mr. Roger E. Fry, finding that circumstances will not admit of his being in New York for so long a time as the responsibilities of the position demand, has resigned the office of Curator of Paintings and has been appointed by the Trustees to the post of European Correspondent and Adviser of the Department.

Mr. Bryson Burroughs, who for the past two years has filled the position of Assistant Curator, has been appointed to the post of Acting Curator of Paintings.

Mr. Garrett Chatfield Pier has been appointed a General Assistant. Mr. Pier is a graduate of Columbia University and has done post-graduate work in the University of Chicago. He has studied also in the Museums of Europe and has spent four seasons in Egypt studying Egyptian, Coptic and Arabic glass, pottery and textiles.

COMPLETION OF CHANGES IN THE ENTRANCE HALL.—The main entrance hall on the Fifth Avenue side of the building, which has been in the hands of the builders

since last July, has at last been cleared of the scaffolding which filled it, and its lighting is found to be much improved by the changes that have been made in the sky-lights of the domes.

The collection of modern sculpture which formerly occupied the hall, and which was removed at the beginning of the alterations, will not be replaced until after the Exhibition of the works of Augustus Saint-Gaudens to be held in March.

THE LIBRARY.—One hundred and twenty-three volumes were added to the library during the month of November. The number of readers was 192.

MEMBERSHIP.—At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, held December 16, the following members were elected:

FELLOWS IN PERPETUITY

Charles B. Curtis
Miss Anne T. Morgan

FELLOW FOR LIFE

Charles F. Smillie

FELLOWSHIP MEMBER

Felix M. Warburg

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Lispensard Stewart
W. J. Walker
James J. Coögan
William C. Dickerman

AN INDEX TO THE BULLETIN.—The second year of the Bulletin closed with the December number, and the present issue begins the third volume. An index and title-page to Volume 2 is issued with this number for the use of those who may wish to bind their copies.

ATTENDANCE.—The following comparative table shows the number of visitors at the Museum during November of last year as well as of the year before:

	1906	1907
17 Free Days...	32,649	17.....34,190
9 Evenings...	1,694	5.....1,241
4 Sundays...	23,241	4.....19,124
9 Pay Days...	2,858	9.....3,041
	<hr/> 60,442	<hr/> 57,596